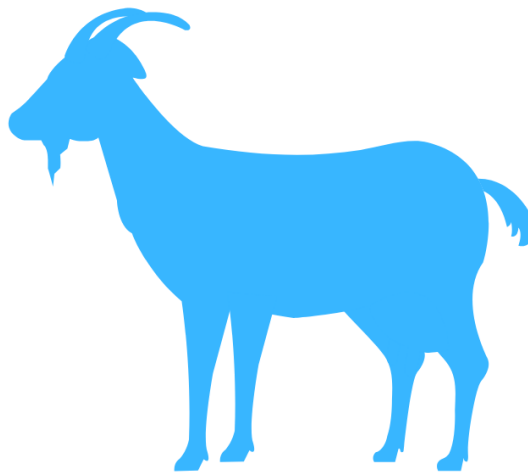


Here we goat! 🐐

1 message

Town of Natick <jwmartin@natickma.org>
Reply-To: Town of Natick <jwmartin@natickma.org>
To: Jillian <jwmartin@natickma.org>

Thu, Feb 27, 2020 at 9:59 AM



Did you know goats are part of a global strategy to combat climate change? I 'kid' you not! (Haha!) Goats emit less methane than cows, are more likely to survive drought and even eat failed crops. So, in an effort to boost climate resilience in vulnerable regions (like Mozambique), nonprofits are helping farmers invest in goats.

While goats are great, I suspect converting the Natick Mall into a goat farm will not rank high on Natick's Net Zero Climate Action Plan.

So what climate strategies should we prioritize in Natick's Net Zero Plan? That's where you come in. Over the next six weeks, [we are asking residents to share their initial thoughts](#) and ideas regarding Net Zero.



[Please take our *short* survey](#) (5 minutes or less – I swear!) and please share it with your friends, neighbors, and family – truly anyone you know who lives or works in Natick. Your feedback will be used to evaluate potential actions and to inform our strategy for engaging the community in the development of the plan.

Thank you in advance for taking the survey and for supporting sustainability in our town.

Goat Natick! ;)
– Jillian Wilson Martin

PS: Info on goatscaping, cafeteria waste audits, Earth Day and more below!



**but wait,
there's more**





Talkin' Trash

This fall we partnered with staff and volunteers at Ben Hem, Johnson, Wilson and Natick High School to conduct cafeteria waste audits. And the results were fascinating! We learned that each week NPS cafeterias throw away 6,119 lbs of trash and that 79% of cafeteria trash could be diverted. [Read more about our findings here.](#)

We have a great partnership with NPS and are currently working with principals to discuss next steps. We hope to pilot waste reduction initiatives in several schools this spring and in the 20–21 school year. If you'd like to help – or if you are the parent of a high school student who'd like to get involved, please contact our part-time School Recycling Coordinator, Jane Ellen Newman, at jenewman@natickps.org.



Earth Day

My favorite holiday – Earth Day, of course – is fast approaching! And since it's Earth Day's 50th birthday, this year is going to be extra special.

To celebrate, Natick is participating in [Metrowest Earth Week](#), and we invite you to join us. If your organization (company, nonprofit, community group) is hosting an Earth Day event, please share it and we will help spread the word.

We are also looking for volunteers help support [Natick's annual Earth Day Festival](#), which is scheduled for Sunday, April 26 on the Town Common. We need help that morning and afternoon with set up and take down

activities. If you're part of a group (church, Boy Scouts, CrossFit, gym, dojo, etc.), and would be willing to help organize some volunteers to join us, we would be forever grateful. Please email natickearthday@gmail.com to get involved.



I promised goats

Goats are great at eating invasive plants and can even eat poison ivy. They can also be a green and affordable way to keep grass and weeds at bay.

The Natick Conservation Commission and the Natick Community Organic Farm are looking to pilot a [goatscaping](#) project this summer, and need help identifying potential locations. They are looking for sites that meet the following criteria:

- Public space (sorry – no private property)
- Has invasive plants, such as buckthorn, multiflora rose, and bittersweet
- Visible to the public; not remote
- Easily accessible to volunteers who would help care for goats

Do you have a place in mind that would be good for the goats or are you interested in volunteering with goats this summer? Email Natick's conservation agent, Marianne Iarossi, at miarossi@natickma.org.



HHW Day Set

Do you have old containers of paint thinner, drain cleaners, antifreeze,

fuel, rat poisons, pesticides or other hazardous waste chillin' in your garage? Then mark your calendar – because we have an event for you!

The Board of Health is hosting its annual [Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day](#) on May 9, from 9am –12pm. Tickets must be purchased in advance from the Health Department's office at Town Hall. To learn more, call the Board of Health at 508-647-6460.

Out of town on May 9? Check the [Health Department's website](#) in March for a list of communities that open their household hazardous waste collection days to residents from other towns.



A friendly reminder that the DPW is no longer selling compostable bags for the curbside composting program. You can now purchase compostable bags at a discount from Wegmans and Tilly's. Additional grocery stores will be offering them soon.

You can always purchase them online (Amazon has them – just search for EcoSafe 6400 2.5 Gallon Compostable Bags) or via [Black Earth Compost's website](#) at full price. Paper bags are also fine!

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